	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/704,573	RODRIGUEZ ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Igor Borissov	3639	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *Appeal Brief filed on 1/10/2005*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *6-9,11-13,18-20 and 25-38*.

3. ☒ The drawings filed on *30 November 2000* are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None of the:
       1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
       2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
       3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
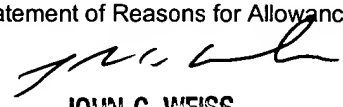   * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
       1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
       Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)
1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____ .

JOHN G. WEISS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes
and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided
by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be
submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2.   Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview
with Leslie A. Van Leeuwen (Reg. No.: 42,196) on Friday, April 8, 2005.

3.   The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

3.1.   18. (Twice Amended). A computer program product stored on a computer
operable media, said computer program product the computer operable media
containing instructions for execution by a computer, which, when executed by the
computer, cause the computer to implement a method for setting a home automation
system based upon a user's travel plans, the method comprising:

      means for registering a the home automation system with an email computer
      system, the registration including a network address corresponding to the home
      automation system;

      means for storing the home automation system's network address on a storage
      device accessible from the email computer system, the storing performed in
      response to the registering;

      means for scheduling the travel plans using a travel agent computer system;

      means for receiving the scheduled travel plans at the email computer system;

      means for retrieving the home automation system's network address from the
      storage location in response to the received travel plan message; and

means for sending a home automation message from the email computer system to the home automation system network address, the home automation message resulting in an automated response performed by the home automation system.

19. (Twice Amended) The computer program product of claim 18 further comprising:

means for receiving the home automation message at the home automation system;

means for identifying a home automation command in the home automation message; and

means for setting a travel home automation environment in the home automation system in response to the home automation command.

20. (Twice Amended) The computer program product of claim 18 wherein the means for sending further comprises:

means for sending an electronic message from an email system to the home automation system.

34. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 18 wherein the means for sending includes means for transferring the message using a secure transmission protocol.

35. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 18 further comprising:

means for authenticating the travel plan message received at the email system, wherein the sending of the home automation message is performed in response to successfully authenticating the travel plan message.

36. (Twice Amended) The computer program product of claim 18 further comprising:

means-for receiving, from a user, a travel request at a travel agent computer

system, the travel request including travel details corresponding to a user's travel

schedule;

means-for creating the travel plan message at the travel agent computer system,

the travel plan message based upon the user's travel schedule;

means-for sending the travel plan message from the travel agent computer

system to the email system; and

means-for reading, at the travel agent computer center, a user profile

corresponding to the user, wherein the user profile includes an email address

corresponding to the email system.

37. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 36 wherein the
travel plan message is an email message and the means-for sending the travel plan
message further comprises:

means-for transmitting the email message from the travel agent computer system

to the email system using the email address corresponding to the email system.

Allowable Subject Matter

4.   Claims 6-9, 11-13, 18-20 and 25-38 are allowed.

5.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per independent claims 6, 11, 18 and 38, the best domestic prior art,

Weinstein et al. (US 6,650,635) teach a method and system for remote connecting to

and controlling a home automation system over a telephone network, including verifying

that the target home automation system is registered, said registration including a

network address corresponding to the home automation system; receiving a command

(form a remote user); in response to the received command retrieving the home

automation system's network address from the storage location; transmitting the

command to the home automation system; interpreting said command at said home automation system; and responding to said command upon "interpreting" step.

However, Weinstein et al. fails to disclose *scheduling the travel plans using a travel agent computer system; receiving, remotely from said home automation system, scheduled travel plans; and in response to the received travel plan message retrieving the home automation system's network address from the storage location.*

Flake et al. (US 5,832,451) teaches an automated travel service management information method and system, including scheduling the travel plans using a travel agent computer system; and transmitting said travels plans to a remote workstation. However, Flake et al. does not teach *in response to the received travel plan message retrieving the home automation system's network address from the storage location.*

Furthermore, there is lack of motivation to combine Weinstein et al. and Flake et al.

6.   The best uncovered foreign prior art is JP02000184471, which appears to disclose a home automation system controlled remotely by a user via a telephone set and a master set, fails to disclose *scheduling the travel plans using a travel agent computer system; receiving, remotely from said home automation system, scheduled travel plans; and in response to the received travel plan message retrieving the home automation system's network address from the storage location.*

7.   The best uncovered NPL document "AMX Announces First Internet-Based Control System for Home Automation" while teaching using the Internet for controlling a home automation system, fails to disclose *scheduling the travel plans using a travel agent computer system; receiving, remotely from said home automation system, scheduled travel plans; and in response to the received travel plan message retrieving the home automation system's network address from the storage location.*
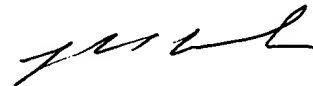
8.   The remaining depended claims 7-9, 12-13, 19-20 and 25-37 are considered allowable as they are dependent and based off of an allowable independent claim.

9.   Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

10.   Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Igor Borissov at telephone number (571) 272-6801. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, John Weiss, can be reached at (571) 272-6812.

IB
4/15/2005

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